

CHURCH PLATE IN SUFFOLK.

DEANERY OF STOW.

While there are fewer pieces of Church Plate in this Deanery, than in many others, of as old a date as the time of Elizabeth, there is, on the other hand, a rather larger amount of fine sets of more recent periods. The one circumstance may account for the other; since the liberal resident families who made donations of plate, caused at the same time the loss of the earlier sets. There are only two Elizabethan Cups; the pretty armorial one at Creeting S. Peter, and probably the older cup at Stowmarket. The only pieces with Norwich marks are the late Patens at Buxhall and Great Finborough. There are handsome armorial sets, all given by the Ray family, at Haughley, Shelland, and Wetherden; and by one of the Tyrells, at Gipping. Other donors are named at Stowmarket. But by far the most curious and important pieces are the Flagons at Combs, beautifully engraved with Scriptural and rustic subjects, believed to have been the gift of Orlando Bridgman, M.P. of Combs Hall, about 1720.

Diss Rectory, Norfolk.

C. R. MANNING, F.S.A.

BUXHALL. S. MARY.

CUP: height $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches; diameter of bowl $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

Marks: leopard's head crowned; maker's mark T. A with a letter or object below, in shaped shield; italic g for 1624; lion passant.

PATEN: with a foot. I. H. S. in rays in centre. Diameter $5\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

Marks: Norwich castle and lion: a crown; maker's mark T. H. a mullet below; a rose; c. 1710.

FLAGON: plated, tankard shaped. Height 10 inches.

ALMS DISH: or second Paten. I H S in rays in centre.

Diameter $7\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

Marks: leopard's head crowned; maker's mark F C in shape; black letter capital K for 1765; lion passant.



COMBS.

COMBS. S. MARY.

CUP: lipped bowl on thin stem.

Height 7 inches; diameter of bowl $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches. No marks.

PATEN: deeply depressed. Diameter 7 inches.

Mark: a crown, small w below.

FLAGONS: a very fine pair, tankard shaped, engraved with scenes, figures, animals, foliage, and fruit, in a high class of art.

Height $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

These remarkable pieces are of Dantzic manufacture, of the early part of the eighteenth century. They are similar in shape and style, but the subjects engraved upon them are different. Upon each of them the higher part of the body of the Flagon is delicately engraved with three ovals in cartouches of foliage, and the lower part has two large standing figures, unenclosed. The subjects are as follows:—

No. 1. Upper part. On the left, a naked kneeling figure, a stag beside him; the sun shining, *The Creation of Adam*. On the right, *The Creation of Eve*: between these, *The Temptation of Adam and Eve*. On the lower part, a man in armour, with spear and shield: tents beside him. *David*? Opposite him, an apparently royal personage. *Saul*? On the top of the lid, two rustic figures under a tree: on the thumb-piece, on one side a rabbit, seated at an anvil, with a mallet: on the other, a bird facing left, one leg uplifted.

No. 2. Upper part. On the left, *The Expulsion of Adam and Eve*: on the right, *Cain driven out*: between these, *Cain slaying Abel*. Lower part: *David*, with a harp, and *Saul*. Tents beside them. On the lid, two rustic figures, one with a spade, the other with his back turned: houses in the distance. On the thumb-piece, on one side, a rabbit hammering on an anvil: on the other, a bird, facing right, one leg uplifted. The lids and bases are richly moulded. The handles are terminated with dogs leaping forward.

There are two marks, viz.: in an oval, two crosses, one above the other, surmounted by a crown. *Town of Dantzic*: and, in an oval, H above G, in Roman capitals. The Flagons are recorded in the parish to have been given by Orlando Bridgman, Esq., M.P. for Ipswich, of Combs Hall; who died 24 April, 1731, and was buried in Combs church. (A pedigree of Bridgman is given in *Burke's Peerage*, under Bradford, Earl.) These pieces are first mentioned in the Terrier of 1723, as:—"Two silver flaggons, curiously engraved, weighing 74 oz. 4 dr. 13 dwts." with "Two old Pewter flaggons." The previous Terrier of 1716 has only "two large Pewter flaggons." The Terrier of 1723 is signed by Henry Darby, Rector: Robert Pryor, Simon Parker, Churchwardens. These beautiful specimens were exhibited at the Ecclesiastical Art Exhibition during the Church Congress at Norwich in 1895.

ALMS DISH: I H S in rays in centre. Inscribed on the back:—*Combs*. Diameter 9 inches.

Marks: "A. N. linked letters, in shape; (Anthony Nelme c. 1700), the rest defaced.

CREETING, WEST. S. PETER.

CUP: a very good small Elizabethan piece, probably of Norwich make. Bell shaped bowl, with circular band. The foot has also a band of foliage. Height 6 inches; diameter of bowl $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches. No marks.

On the bowl is engraved, above the band, a small coat of arms, with helmet and mantling, viz.: (or), on a bend (vert), three bucks' heads cabossed (argent), attired (of the field). *Crest*: a talbot, passant (argent) through fern (vert), collared and lined (or) *Ferneley*. William Ferneley, a mercer of London, purchased an estate of the Wingfield family here, in the early part of Elizabeth's reign, and his descendants continued many years.

The Cup has a PATEN Cover, with a circular band on it; with no foot, but with a button engraved with a rose. Diameter 4 inches.

PATEN: on a foot, with gadrooned edge. Diameter $7\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

Inscribed on the foot:—*The Gift of John Freeman, Clerk, A.M. Rector of West Creeting. 1779.*"

Marks: leopard's head crowned; maker's mark I. K for John King (as in *Cripps* under 1792); small Roman c for 1779; lion passant.

FINBOROUGH, GREAT. S. ANDREW.

CUP: on a thin stem with no boss.

Height $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches; diameter of bowl 3 inches.

Marks: leopard's head crowned; maker's mark a defaced letter and G, with a object below; capital Roman S in plain shield for 1733; lion passant.

PATEN: (1) with a foot, a Norwich piece. Diameter $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

Marks: Norwich castle and lion; maker's mark T. H. in square (for Thomas Havers, 1670–90); a rose; a crown.

(2) Small, of pewter. Diameter $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches. On back, "London."

Second Set. CUP: a fine piece, of medieval shape. The bowl is plain; the stem has ornamental mouldings, and a thick knot, with projecting bosses. On the foot is a crucifix in high relief in gold.

Height $7\frac{1}{4}$ inches; diameter of bowl $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

Marks: leopard's head not crowned; maker's mark I. F in circle, stamped "Keith & Co. London"; capital Roman A for 1876; lion passant; head of Victoria.

PATENS: (1) with no foot. Diameter $5\frac{7}{8}$ inches.

Same marks and stamp.

(2) With a foot, a Maltese cross in the centre, in a circle, plated.

Diameter 7 inches.

FLAGON: of fluted glass, with plated mount, and lid with a cross upon it, tankard shaped. Height 10 inches.

ALMS DISH: brass, a fine piece, with i h c in the centre.

Diameter 15 inches.

FLAGONS: a pair, of pewter, preserved in the chest.

LITTLE FINBOROUGH. S. MARY.

CUP : plain, with no boss in the stem.

Height $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches ; diameter of bowl $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

PATEN : plain, plated ; on a foot $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches high. Diameter 9 inches.

ALMS DISH : plain, plated. Diameter $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

A set of small older plate here was sold by the predecessor of the present Vicar. The present set is plated.

FLAGON : pewter, recently electro-plated, tankard shaped.

Height $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches ; with lid and thumb piece.

Marks : R. B, a cinquefoil below in shield ; ditto repeated ; another device in shield, defaced.

ALMS DISH : pewter. Diameter 9 inches.

Marks : I. K. with a star above ; a sun ; a leopard's head (?) ; lion passant ; all in shaped shields. On the back :—*London*.

GIPPING CHAPEL. S. NICHOLAS.

CUP : straight sided bowl, on baluster stem.

Height $6\frac{3}{4}$ inches ; diameter of bowl $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

Marks : leopard's head crowned ; maker's mark H and another letter ? with dove and olive branch below ; court hand R for 1712 ; lion passant.

PATENS : a pair, with feet. Diameter $9\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

Marks : Britannia ; lion's head erased ; maker's mark obscure ; perhaps R. G. in shaped shield, for Richard Greene, as in *Cripps* under 1710 ; court hand I for 1704. A coat of Arms with helmet and mantling, in the centre : argent, two chevrons azure ; a border engrailed gules. Crest : out of a boar's head erect, argent, a plume of peacock's feathers. Supporters two tigers regardant. *Tyrell*. Inscription round the achievement :—*Ex dono E. TYRELL. Deo et Ecclesie, An. Dom. 1736.*

The ancient family of Tyrell of Gipping was entitled to *supporters* as knights-banneret. They appear, with the arms and devices and mottoes, and those of their alliances, on the external walls of the very beautiful chapel. See the Rev. W. H. Sewell's Paper in *Archaeological Journal*, Vol. xxviii., p. 23.

HARLESTON. S. AUGUSTINE.

CUP : on baluster stem.

Height $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches ; diameter of bowl 3 inches.

Marks : leopard's head crowned ; maker's mark W and another letter defaced ; small Roman t for 1754 ; lion passant.

PATEN : without a foot. Diameter 4 inches. No marks.

FLAGON : pewter, tankard shaped. Height $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

ALMS DISH : pewter. Diameter $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

HAUGHLEY. S. MARY.

CUP: Elizabethan, deep bell shaped bowl with a circular band, no boss in the stem. Height $6\frac{1}{4}$ inches; diameter $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

Mark: a cinquefoil.

A fine second set of plate, consisting of a pair of CUPS with COVERS: boss in stems and bases, with gadroon mouldings.

Height of cups $7\frac{7}{8}$ inches; of pyramidal covers $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches; diameter of bowls $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

Marks: leopard's head crowned; maker's mark E. T. W. in small black letter capitals, with a plume of three feathers out of a crown above; black letter capital C for 1758; lion passant.

On one side of the bowls a coat of arms within a cartouche, azure, on a chief indented Or, three martlets gules. *Ray*. In pretence, argent, a lion rampant sable, ducally gorged, or (*Phillips?*). Motto: *Et Juste et vray*. Inscribed:—*Deo et Ecclesie de Hawleigh in Com. Suff. Richardus Ray, Vicarius D. D. D. MDCCLVIII*. On the other side I.H.S. in rays. The Covers have the same inscription inside.

PATENS: a fine pair, cinquefoil shaped, with gadrooned edges, I.H.S. in rays on raised centres. Diameter $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

The same marks, the same arms on the rims, and the same inscription.

FLAGON: fine, ewer shaped; gadroon pattern on neck and base.

Height 12 inches.

Marks: same. The same Arms on one side, and I.H.S. on the other, the same inscription on the neck. (See Shelland and Wetherden.)

NEWTON, OLD. S. MARY.

CUP: usual shape of c. 1680.

Height 6 inches; diameter of bowl $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

Mark: a crown, with small w below.

PATEN: on hollow foot, quite flat, no edge moulding.

Diameter $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

FLAGON: pewter. Height $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches. A stamp on the handle.

ONEHOUSE. S. JOHN BAPTIST.

CUP: on tall stem, without a boss.

Height 7 inches; diameter of bowl $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

Mark: a cinquefoil.

PATEN: Cover to Cup, no foot. Diameter $4\frac{5}{8}$ inches.

Mark: the same.

FLAGON: pewter.

GLASS CRUETS: two with plated mounts.

ALMS DISHES: (1) or paten, plated. Diameter $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

(2) Pewter. Diameter $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

SHELLAND.

CUP : goblet shape, with beaded boss and base.

Height $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches ; diameter of bowl $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

Marks : leopard's head crowned ; maker's mark $\begin{matrix} R:M \\ R:C \end{matrix}$ in square ; small Roman b in cornered shield for 1777 ; lion passant.

On the bowl I H S in rays on one side ; on the other, arms and inscription :—*The Gift of Richard Ray Esq & Elizabeth his wife to the Church of Shelland in the County of Suffolk in the year 1777.* Within a wreath a shield with :—Quarterly, 1st and 4th azure on a chief indented Or, three martlets, gules. Ray. 2nd and 3rd argent a lion rampant sable, ducally gorged, or. (Phillips?) In pretence, per fess azure and or, a pale counterchanged ; on the first, three falcons rising of the second, crowned and belled. *Lock of Mildenhall.* Motto : "Et juste et vray." (See Haughley and Wetherden.)

PATENS : a pair, with beaded edges. Diameter 7 inches.

Marks : the same. On the rims the same arms and inscription ; and I H S in the centre.

FLAGON : tankard shaped, beaded edge. Height 9 inches.

The same marks, arms, inscription, and I.H.S. (See Haughley and Wetherden for arms of the same family.)

STOWMARKET. SS. PETER AND MARY.

CUPS : (1) deep bowl, a boss in the stem, "egg and tongue" mouldings. Perhaps Elizabethan. A domed Cover to the cup (not a Paten), with flat foot. Height $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches ; diameter of bowl $3\frac{7}{8}$ inches.

Marks : none legible.

(2) Plain bowl and slightly sexfoil in shape, the lip bound with iron ; sexfoil foot, plated.

Height $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches ; diameter of bowl $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

PATEN : very flat. Inscribed on the rim :—*Stowmarket 1664.*

Diameter $8\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

Marks : leopard's head crowned ; maker's mark a pear shaped object or an escallop crowned ; court hand O in shield for 1651 ; lion passant.

FLAGON : fine, tankard shaped, with gadrooned edges and lid.

Inscription on front :—*Ex Dono Johannis Carter. Anno Domini 1698.* Height $12\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

Marks : Britannia ; lion's head erased ; maker's mark Ro. in a heart for Hugh Roberts (as in *Cripps* under 1697) ; court hand C for 1698.

ALMS DISHES : (1) Inscription on the rim :—*Deo & Ecclesiae Catherina Vidua Johannis Saer qui in Domino requievit 17 Cal. Novembris MDCXXI. hanc Lancem obtulit.* Underneath : *Stowmarket.* Diameter $9\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

Marks : leopard's head crowned ; maker's mark T. F, star below, in a quatrefoil (Thomas Ffarrer ?) ; capital Roman F in shield for 1721 ; lion passant.

(2) a shallow basin. Inscription underneath, in a circle :—*The Gift of M^{rs} ELIZABETH ALDRICH of Stowmarket, Widdow, 1733.*

Diameter $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

Marks : leopard's head crowned ; maker's mark Ro. (?) ; capital Roman R (?) in shield for 1732 ; lion passant.

SPOON : ordinary, modern shape.

Marks : leopard head not crowned ; maker's mark I. H. or H. I. in oblong ; small Roman i for 1824 ; lion passant ; head of George IV.

CRUET : glass, with metal cross stopper.

Seven pewter dishes. Four of them are shallow bowls ; diameter $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches. On the backs :—*Thomas Alderson*, with a crest ; out of a mural crown, a demi lion rampant regardant, holding (a ball ?), sun and crescent above : X crowned on each side, and "London Superfine."

Another, same diameter, has X crowned : and $\begin{matrix} B \\ R S \end{matrix}$ all crowned. "Superfine Hard metal, made in London." Another, same diameter, has X crowned ; $\begin{matrix} H \\ T \end{matrix}$: Britannia (?) : and another mark defaced.

A Pewter Flagon : tankard shaped, with lid and handle.

Height $11\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

Marks illegible. Inside at bottom, F. S.

STOWUPLAND. HOLY TRINITY.

CUP : I H S upon it. Inscribed underneath :—*Stow Upland Hamlet 1843.* Height 6 inches ; diameter of bowl 3 inches.

Marks : leopard's head crowned ; maker's mark E and another letter ; capital Roman R ; as there is no Sovereign's head this is probably the letter for 1732, not 1812 ; lion passant.

PATEN : on a foot, I H S in centre. Same inscription :—with $\begin{matrix} G.D. \\ A.D. \end{matrix}$

Marks : leopard's head crowned ; I M ; lion passant ; others defaced.

CRUET : glass.

ALMS DISH : pewter.

WETHERDEN. S. MARY.

CUP : of the usual shape of c. 1680. Inscribed :—*Church of Wetherden, Suffolk.* Height $5\frac{3}{4}$ inches ; diameter of bowl $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

No marks.

PATEN : cover to cup. Somewhat broken. Diameter $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Same inscription in centre.

CUPS : two, a fine second set, with pyramidal covers.

FLAGON, PATENS or DISHES : two. All precisely the same as those at Haughley, with the same ornament, marks, arms, and inscriptions, except *Rector* instead of *Vicarius*. (See also Shelland).